

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box ☒

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/709,582
Filing Date	May 14, 2004
First Named Inventor	John E. Johnson
Group Art Unit	3643
Examiner Name	Parsley, David J
Attorney Docket Number	717119.483

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
DP	AA	3,546,737		Neebel et al.	12/15/1970	
	AB	3,613,154		Townsend	10/19/1971	
	AC	3,789,456		Doerfer et al.	02/05/1974	
	AD	3,940,830		Anderson et al.	03/02/1976	
	AE	4,209,878		Albert et al.	07/01/1980	
	AF	4,246,837		Chenery	01/27/1981	
	AG	4,628,806		Murphy	12/16/1986	
	AH	4,939,574		Petersen et al.	07/03/1990	
	AI	4,970,755		Leblanc	11/20/1990	
	AJ	4,979,269		Norrie	12/25/1990	
	AK	5,090,939		Leblanc	02/25/1992	
	AL	5,429,548		Long et al.	07/04/1995	
	AM	5,476,417		Long et al.	12/19/1995	
	AN	5,580,306		Young et al.	12/03/1996	
	AO	5,738,577		Long	04/14/1998	
	AP	6,104,966		Haagensen	08/15/2000	
	AQ	6,129,625		Cate et al.	10/10/2000	
	AR	6,277,019		Veldkamp et al.	08/21/2001	
	AS	6,558,242		Veldkamp, et al.	05/06/2003	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
DP	AT	EP	0 402 877	B1	Slagteriernes Forskningsinstitut	09/04/1996		
	AU	EP	0 422 877	A2	International Business Machines	04/17/1991		
	AV	EP	0 484 933	B1	Maja-Maschinenfabrik	08/03/1994		

Examiner Signature

David J. Parsley

Date Considered

1-6-05

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this from with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Document. ³ Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement; This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231 DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231